

## TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Our purpose in traffic law enforcement is to safely and effectively regulate the movement of traffic on the State's highways, and to protect the law-abiding motorist against the careless or wilfull violator by consistent, reasonable, but firm traffic enforcement and supervision.

Since proper enforcement reduces violations and accidents, and improper enforcement does not, enforcement effort should be directed toward those violations which are the principal causes of accidents, with necessary consideration given to time and place of occurrence. Alert and working officers have a marked deterrent effect, as do distinctively marked patrol cars in heavily travelled areas.

Enforcement should be reasonable and uniform in its application. Citations should not be issued in doubtful cases and in those situations where the violation is more technical than real. (The position of the officer in case of appeal should help in determining the difference between reasonable and doubtful or technical violations).

Warning tickets, properly issued, have a desirable effect and can be used when a moving violation occurs that does not justify a citation. They may also be used in minor violations of the registration laws, as well as for many cases of defective equipment. They will be issued in all ordinary cases of expired inspection stickers for at least thirty (30) days after expiration, and in other situations where their use effects proper compliance.

Electronic speed timing devices (radar) may be used to control speed in restricted zones, as well as on the open highway, but are not to be used in such zones to build up traffic arrests, or where safety is not a factor.

A tolerance of ten (10) miles per hour above the posted speed will normally be given to account for speedometer or human error in pursuit apprehensions. The same tolerance will apply to speed determination by radar.

The Point Program of the Department of Motor Vehicles is a strong deterrent to violations of the Motor Vehicle laws. Citations charging less than the actual speed to keep the violator from collecting points against his driving record only serves to defeat the purpose of the program.

Enforcement in all situations should be of good quality. Officer contacts with the violator should be conducted in a manner calculated to gain compliance with the law, an understanding of our purpose, and respect for the Department.